

Message Text

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12

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, YO

SUBJECT: AFN INTERFERENCE WITH RADIO SARAJEVO

BONN FOR TCO

GENEVA FOR USDEL, ITU WMARC

REF: (A) BELGRADE 1250; (B) STATE 048619 NOTAL

1. YUGOSLAV FIRST SECRETARY VIDOVIC CALLED ON COUNTRY OFFICER FOR YUGOSLAVIA MAY 2 TO PRESENT FOUR PAGE WRITTEN RESPONSE TO DEPARTMENT'S MARCH 8 REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL INFORMATION CONCERNING AREA OF COVERAGE OF RADIO SARAJEVO REQUIRING PROTECTION, AND STRENGTH AND TIMES OF INTERFERENCE ALLEGEDLY EXPERIENCED FROM AFN STATIONS (REFTEL B). RESPONSE ALSO PROVIDES GROUND-WAVE AND SKY-WAVE FIELD STRENGTH PROFILES OF RADIO SARAJEVO TRANSMITTER ON 611 KHZ.

2. STRESSING THAT YUGOSLAV REPLY WAS RESULT OF "SERIOUS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EFFORT" ON PART OF YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES, VIDOVIC ASKED THAT FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL POINTS BE CONVEYED TO US TECHNICAL EXPERTS: (A) NO RPT NO SPECIAL ATMOSPHERIC SITUATION EXISTS IN SARAJEVO AREA; (B) AS RESULT OF RESOLUTION OF PROBLEM OF INTERFERENCE FROM GDR STATION ON 611 KHZ, AFN INTERFERENCE NOW GREATER THAN BEFORE; (C) ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL REGISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION (ITU), AFN HAS NOT RPT NOT OBTAINED RIGHT TO USE 611 KHZ FREQUENCY UNDER COPENHAGEN PLAN.

3. VIDOVIC CONCLUDED PRESENTATION BY REITERATING GOY REQUEST THAT US MOVE TO SOLVE PROBLEM OF AFN INTERFERENCE DEFINITELY.

4. COUNTRY OFFICER EMPHASIZED THAT US WAS INDEED ENGAGED IN SERIOUS EFFORT TO ASSESS NATURE OF ALLEGED AFN INTERFERENCE AND, IF FOUND TO BE REQUIRED, ALLEVIATE IT. EARLY IN APRIL US EMBASSY IN BELGRADE HAD MONITORED 611 KHZ FOR INTERFERENCE BY AFN STATIONS. TAPE RECORDINGS PREPARED BY MONITOR ARE NOW BEING EVALUATED BY TECHNICAL EXPERTS AND RESULTS ARE EXPECTED SHORTLY. REMEDIAL MEASURES WILL THEN BE CONSIDERED IF NEEDED.

5. COUNTRY OFFICER RESERVED RIGHT TO COMMENT ON ALLEGED ABSENCE OF LEGAL RIGHT FOR AFN TO USE 611 KHZ FREQUENCY PENDING CONSULTATION WITH US TELECOMMUNICATIONS EXPERTS.

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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